

REMARKS

Claims 4-9, 19, and 20 are now pending in the application. Claim 23 has been canceled and Claim 9 has been amended. Bases for the amendment can be found throughout the application, claims and drawings as originally filed and as such, no new matter has been presented. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections and objections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office has rejected Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2002039206A to Shimizu. This rejection is respectfully rendered moot.

Applicant initially notes that the Office has stated that the Shimizu reference discloses first and second yokes (1,2) having an almite surface treatment and a trunnion assembly (4,3). Applicant further notes that an "almite" surface treatment appears to be an "alumite" anodizing surface treatment that is described in U.S. Patent No. 3,634,208 in which a suitable electrolyte, such as oxalic acid or sulfuric acid, is employed to form a porous surface layer on an aluminum structure.

Applicant submits that the Office has acknowledged that the almite treated surfaces of the universal joint of the Shimizu reference are formed of aluminum. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the Shimizu reference does not teach or suggest a universal joint having a first yoke that includes a body portion and an overmold portion that is formed of aluminum wherein the body portion is formed of a material that is different from the overmold portion. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully

requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER


The Office has indicated that Claims 4-8, 19 and 20 have been allowed.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection and objection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding objections and rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 21, 2006

By: 

Michael D. Zalobsky
Reg. No. 45,512

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

MDZ/cr